

MEMPHIS APPEAL

TUESDAY MORNING, JAN. 12, 1875.

SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS.

A bill has been presented in the legislature of our State, by Mr. Walker, for the purpose of abolishing the State and county superintendents of public schools. It is to be hoped that this bill will be defeated. A system of public schools without superintendents is like an army without officers, or a ship without a commander, rudder or compass. We have organized and in operation in Tennessee excellent schools, but the legislation proposed by Mr. Walker would produce the worst and most inefficient school laws known to civilization. System, supervision and executive power are the great elements of success in our public schools. To secure unity and vigor there must be a directing hand. When each public school is left isolated, made free and independent, there will be as many different systems of teaching as there are teachers. We can never have only one school system without State and county superintendents. Dispendance with them, and we have nothing but shreds and patches. Superintendents are a necessity in educational facilities. Experience is decisive on this subject. Two years ago the legislature of the State of Missouri abolished the office of county superintendent. Time has demonstrated that this was a fearful mistake. The people are now clamorous for the restoration of the county superintendents, and the present legislature of Missouri, now in session, will adopt the old system, by making provision for the office of superintendent. A meeting was recently held at Jefferson City, Missouri, for the purpose of perfecting the school system of the State. Mr. Nelson Church, a prominent citizen of Albany, addressed this meeting a letter, and in alluding to the law dispensing with county superintendents, he said:

"What can we do? One year ago our schools were doing well. We had good institutions and were securing good teachers. The people and teachers were joyful. Now they are dissatisfied and discouraged. Our best teachers go to other States. Our institutions are ruined. More than half of the district teachers have failed to report. It is useless to conceal the fact that we are suffering terribly from the wise linking of the school system. The people are dissatisfied with the new law, and no interest can be awakened. In one year our reports have retrograded fifty per cent. Something must be done."

A school system, without State and county superintendents, is wanting in a vital element. None but petty politicians, who expect to gain cheap popularity by the pretense of retrenchment; none but the enemies of popular education, who know that in no other way can they so effectively injure the public schools, oppose either State or county superintendents. Educational progress has ever been in the direct ratio of the efficiency of the supervision. Upon this subject Europe speaks with startling emphasis. The experience of the older States demonstrates the necessity of supervision. New York, in 1847, abolished the county superintendent. Public clamor demanded this action. For long years the state of improvement and progress was set back. At length a suffering people clamored for its restoration, and in 1858 this was done. For eighteen years the progress has been wonderful. In New York the county superintendency has no opposition. Pennsylvania, as an educational State, up to 1864 stood low indeed. For twenty years a superintendent had labored in such counties of the State. Now she stands the one of the most advanced. Her progress during these years has been marvelous. In all the State not a voice is raised against the county superintendency. Every railroad factory, foundry, and in fact, every successful business enterprise has a superintendent and assistants; because there must be a hand to secure uniformity of action and co-operation of labor, and because it pays. Then how much more important it is that a system of business as large and varied as the public schools of Tennessee, should be managed by business men, on business principles. To leave hundreds of teachers without a plan, a tendency without supervision, is an absurdity; and if Mr. Walker's bill should become a law, our public school system would soon be found in a deplorable condition. It is known that many of our public teachers are comparatively inexperienced; yet they have control of immortal minds. That they may do well, they must be directed by wiser heads. It has been truly said that "the right development of child-mind is of priceless value. No narrow, sordid consideration should have weight here. But let the people be aroused to the educational value of the county superintendency, and they will soon adopt a policy which would save dollars and ruin minds." Without superintendents our school system will become a mockery and a farce. Pupils will be required, as is too often the case, to go over the same grounds, year after year. There are many other reasons why, no doubt, induce the legislature to defeat Mr. Walker's bill. In Tennessee we have a vast army of children depending upon the great enemy—ignorance. Let them be commanded by a general whose headquarters will be at Nashville. Then there should be continued subordinate officers, located in each county, whose duty it is to adopt and execute the plans of the general superintendent; to see that each school has a well digested course of study, and that practical work be done by each teacher; to grade the schools; to examine and classify; to meet and instruct the teachers and to dispense with unworthy teachers. Economy is a necessity, but there are other funds for retrenchment. The true political economy is to foster our schools; to make education free as the air we breathe—but free schools without superintendents is a waste of money. The legislation Mr. Walker proposes, will greatly decrease the efficiency of the public school system in Tennessee, and the members that favor it are an enemy to his race and to society.

GOVERNOR ALLEN, OF OHIO.

This distinguished patriot and Statesman, venerated for his years, is making a meritorious war upon Grant and Sheridan. He is old in years, but he has all the fire and energy of youth burning in his heart. Governor Allen made a speech at Columbus, Ohio, on Thursday last, at the Democratic celebration of the anniversary of the battle of New Orleans, which for ability, patriotism and eloquent outbursts against tyranny and usurpation, has not been surpassed since the days of Clay and Webster. He contrasted in strong language the New Orleans of today with the New Orleans Jackson defended. He showed that the city was

curse with a worse despotism than that from which Jackson rescued it. In alluding to the manner in which Andrew Jackson submitted to the whims of a judge, Governor Allen said: "Jackson's enemies got up complaints which were carried into the courts. Jackson had an army there which, in obedience to his commands, might have taken that court and hung them. He was at the head of a victorious army. The great body of the people of New Orleans were shouting in his behalf. What did he do? He walked into the courthouse, presented himself to the judges, heard the arguments about his case, submitted to the judgment of the court that imposed a fine of a thousand dollars upon him, walked off like a quiet citizen and paid the money. (Applause.) Here was a case of an armed patriot submitting to the civil authority of the country. (Applause.) Contrast this conduct with the conduct of the military power recently witnessed in New Orleans—not toward the city of New Orleans, but toward the entire sovereign State of Louisiana, that had as much right to elect its legislature as the State of Ohio has, and whose legislative body had as much right to convene under the expressed will of the people as the legislature of the State of Ohio. The vote of the State was cast; a Conservative majority was elected, gave dispute as to the result of the election, and, as has been the case hundreds of times. Those disputes, under the constitution and the law, could only be settled by the legislative body to which the people had elected them. How was it settled? It was settled in the old way of despotism—settled by an armed body—settled by the army of the United States, paid by your taxes—settled by a man who was ordered there for his reckless military despotism; and that man, now after having turned out enough of the elected members of the triumphant party to give to the minority the control of the State, the American people of that State, wants to make a big job, and he telegraphs to the President of the United States that every man in the three States is a bandit and outlaw, and in order to get rid of them by a short, quick process, so that there will be no more of them, he orders the army to march into the State, and to seize precisely the course Cornelius Scyllia pursued, which, being the lead of a triumphant party, for the moment, has slaughtered one hundred thousand citizens of the other party. Having done that he died in a few years, rotten in his body from head to foot and eaten up with vermin. I don't know how long it will take these fellows to rot, but I know this, that every man engaged in this diabolical act will be consigned to everlasting infamy by the people of the United States."

THE ONLY PLACE

COFFEES

In the city to buy the cheapest and best

Roasted, Ground or Granulated,

and prepared by the latest improved machinery,

is at the Memphis Coffee and Spice Mills.

We defy competition on all our various grades of Coffee and Spice.

Any quantity ordered as represented or on approval.

C. H. FOWLER & CO., Prop'rs,

305 Main street, Memphis.

P. S.—Priced sent to any address on application.

NEW FIRM.

W. H. GRIDER, JNO. H. CHENOWETH,

Late with Grider & Denio.

W. H. GRIDER & CO.,

(Successors to Grider & Denio),

MANUFACTURERS OF GRIDER & CO'S

CELEBRATED

ALABAMA LIME

Cement, Plaster Hair, Fire Brick, Fire

Clay, Hay, Corn, Oats, Bran, Etc.,

318 FRONT ST.,

Near Monroe.

Would most respectfully solicit the patronage

of all who extend to this firm.

R. L. COCHRAN, S. A. BATHUR.

R. L. COCHRAN & CO.,

SUCCESSIONS TO

M. E. & J. W. COCHRAN,

LUMBER DEALERS

AND MANUFACTURERS,

Offices and Yards, Foot Washington St.,

and No. 4 Howard's Row.

DISSOLUTION.

THE firm of Seabrook & Buford is dissolved

by the death of T. A. Buford, W. F. Seabrook

having purchased the interest of T. A. Buford, deceased, and all his estate and is

also authorized to settle the business of the late firm.

January 4, 1875.

NEW FIRM.

W. H. SEABROOK & CO.,

(Successors to Seabrook & Buford).

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL

DRUGGISTS.

No. 335 Main Street, Memphis.

A. M. BOYD, ALISTON BOYD.

A. M. BOYD & SON,

COTTON FACTORS.

360 Front Street.

J. H. HUMPHREYS,

CIVIL ENGINEER & SURVEYOR

19 Madison street, up stairs.

DR. A. K. TAYLOR,

(Late of Memphis),

Resident Physician,

HOT SPRINGS, ARK.

Can be addressed or seen personally at the Hot

Springs House, Hot Springs, Ark.

FOSTER'S SECOND TEXAS

GRAND PRIZE CONCERT

At Houston, Texas, March 3, 1875.

\$200,000.00

The Real Estate is put in its real value

Capital Prize, \$100,000 Gold.

COMMEMORATIVE—Having from our long

experience in the management of the company

we have decided to give a grand prize of

one hundred thousand dollars to the person

who will win the largest number of prizes

drawn from the largest number of prizes

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when employed in her service has never failed to increase a reputation coextensive with the Union. While regretting his withdrawal from the field of contest for the highest honor Indiana could confer, we trust it will not be without effect upon those who remain, and that it will ultimately lead to the election of some one of the many statesmen offering for United States senator upon a basis of harmony, such as is necessary to party integrity.

This is a fearful confession, but it is true.

The Jackson Clinton says that, of that city, who pays thirty-four thousand dollars

taxes, testified before the taxpayers' convention that the proceeds of his crops at the present market value, would not pay the cost of production with the enormous taxes levied superadded. Mr. Richardson is one of the most successful and economical business men in Mississippi. The same fact as to absorption of income by oppressive taxes applies to all property-holders, whether rich or poor, and its blighting effects extend to all classes, whether land-owners or laborers.

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A. E. KENNEDY, W. A. RUDD.

EDMUND ORRILL, A. S. MENEAR.

G. L. DENISON, JNO. T. WILLIAMS.

Kennedy & Rudd

Wholesale and Retail Dealers in

Boots and Shoes

269 1-2 MAIN ST.,

Opposite Court Square,

MEMPHIS, : : TENNESSEE.

NOTICE.

THE Directors of the German National Bank

have this day declared a semi-annual

dividend of ten percent, payable to the stock-

holders on demand.

1875. MARTIN GRIFFIN, Cashier.

CIGARS! LOTTERY! CIGARS!

BORNIO & BROTHER

(COMMISSION MERCHANTS (established

1840), Importers and Wholesale Dealers in

Cigars, Cigarettes, Manufactured Cheeses and

Smoking Tobacco.

Next Extraordinary Drawing of the

renowned Royal Lottery, held on

January 15th, 1875, will be held at

Capital Prize \$500,000. Be prompt! call for

tickets and send orders in advance to

BORNIO & BROTHER,

77 Gravier street, NEW ORLEANS, LA.

ESTD. 1858.

DOOLEY'S

YEAST POWDER

THE STANDARD BAKING POWDER

IS THE BEST AND CHEAPEST

PREPARATION EVER

OFFERED FOR MAKING

BREAD.

Dooley's Yeast Powder

Is perfectly Pure and Wholesome.

Dooley's Yeast Powder

Is put up in Full Weight Cans.

Dooley's Yeast Powder

Makes Elegant Biscuits and Rolls.

Dooley's Yeast Powder

Makes Delicious Muffins, Griddle Cakes,

and all kinds of Dainties, Pies, Cakes

and Pastry, neat, light and healthy.

Dooley's Yeast Powder

Is the best, because perfectly pure.

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